Setting up of a clinic for occupational Diseases

2339. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a clinic to diagnose occupational diseases in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) and (b) A proposal for setting up four Zonal Centres under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme for detection and treatment of occupational diseases, is under consideration of the ESI Corporation.

News-item captioned 'ITDC tie up with foreign chain'

2340. SHRIMATI KRISHNA KAUL: DR. LOKESH CHANDRA:

Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item which appeared in the *'Times of India'* of the 23rd January, 1986 captioned 'ITDC tie up with foreign chain'; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) what benefit is likely to accrue to the ITDC thereby?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir. Details of the various marketing tie ups are as under:

Name of the Party with whom ITDC has entered into agreement for marketing and reservation tie ups	Effective from	Validity
1. M/s Odner Hotels Representative	1-1-85	2 yrs
2. M/s Golden Tulip World wide-Hotels Limited . ..	1-10-85	2 yrs
3. M/s Trust House Forte, London	1-3-86	2 yrs

(b) As a result of marketing and reservation tie-ups abroad, ITDC will be able to have the facility of instant reservation of its hotels, thus increasing business of the Corporation from the major tourist generating countries.

ITDC hotels

2341. DR. LOKESH CHANDRA: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to close down some of the ITDC hotels in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the names thereof and what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHRI H.K.L. BHAGAT): (a) and (b) The Government have decided to use the building of Akbar Hotel at New Delhi to house the offices of the Ministry of External Affairs with effect from 1-4-1986. It is not proposed to close down any of the other hotel units of the ITDC.

Import of Sugar

2342. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantum of sugar imported during the last three years;

(b) the amount of money spent on the purchase of imported sugar; and

(c) by when the country is expected to be self-sufficient in the production of sugar.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) and (b) Figures of quantum of sugar imported during the last 3 years and the CIF value thereof are as under :—

Financial Year	Quantum of import (L/Tonnes)	CIF value (Rs./ Crores)
1983-84.	Nil	Nil
1984-85.	4·96	113·62
1985-86. (provisional estimate	19·38	430·62

(c) To meet the increased requirement of sugar for internal consumption, measures have already been initiated to encourage sugar production including the payment of remunerative cane prices to the growers by the sugar factories. With the increase in sugar production and larger availability of indigenous sugar, the dependence on imported sugar will get correspondingly reduced.

Cotton destroyed in Maharashtra

2343. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased state:

(a) what is the quantity of cotton destroyed/demaged in Vidarbha area of Maharashtra during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 and the value thereof; and

(b) the amount of compensation, if any paid by the Central Government to the cotton growers/mill owners during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN): (a) The quantity of cotton destroyed/ demaged by fire in Vidarbha area of Maharashtra is as under :

(Rs in lakhs)

Season	Quantity	Value
1982-83	11,2801Qtl. Ctn. 12,906 Ctn. Bls.	411.02
1983-84	4,265 Qtn. Ctn. 1388 Ctn. Bls.	79.16
1984-85	9505 Qtl. Ctn. 3091 Ctn. Bls.	115.05

(b) The above cotton was insured and hence the loss thereof has been compensated by the insurance company.

Steps to increase the flow of foreign tourists to India

2344. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of foreign tourists who visited India during the last two years, year-wise;

(b) the number of foreign tourists expected to visit during the current financial year; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government to increase the flow of foreign tourists to India?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND TOURISM (SHR H. K. L. BHAGAT): (a) The number of foreign tourists, excluding